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April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
Room H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the West Side Bazaar Expansion Project in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Westminster Economic Development Initiative, Inc., located at 436 Grant Street, Buffalo, NY 14213.

This request will outfit the West Side Bazaar with modern kitchen spaces for food prep, service, and storage for our popular international food court. The new kitchens will allow our economically disadvantaged yet aspiring restaurateurs to start their businesses and build toward their own brick and mortar establishments. The West Side Bazaar will expand from 3,200 square feet on Grant St. to 18,000 square feet in a renovated historic factory building on the rapidly revivifying Niagara St. The new West Side Bazaar will offer more shops for a wide variety of eclectic imports and professional services. WEDI plans for 24 businesses from the current 16, and to 75 seats from the current 35 in the cafe. It will be possible for the public to enjoy meals, shopping, music, cooking classes, tastings and events without requiring the hyper-vigilance a seat now requires.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress